REMARKS

Claims 1, 8 and 10 have been cancelled. New claims 21-23 have been added. Claims 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 have been amended to change their dependencies from now cancelled claim 1 to new independent claim 21 and to remove alphabetic labels to maintain consistency with new claim 21. Claims 2-7, 9, 11-23 are currently pending in the present application. No new matter has been added. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant graciously acknowledges the allowable subject matter indicated on page 10 of the Action. New independent claim 21 recites limitations relied upon for patentability from now cancelled independent claim 1 and dependent claims 8 and 10. In particular, claim 21 recites, "employing a table for storing a plurality of defective pixel locations; wherein the table includes a last entry having a row value and a column value; wherein employing a table for storing a plurality of defective pixel locations includes setting the row value of the last entry in the table to a value that is greater than the first predetermined number of rows; and setting the column value of the last entry in the table to a value that is greater than the second predetermined number of columns," which is not fairly taught or suggested by the cited references.

New dependent claim 22 recites a limitation, previously set forth in now cancelled claim 1, but not relied upon for patentably distinguishing the claimed invention over the cited references. New dependent claim 23 recites a limitation originally recited in now cancelled dependent claim 9.

For all the reasons advanced above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are requested, and allowance is earnestly solicited at an early date. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner has any suggestions, thoughts or comments, which might expedite the prosecution of this case.

E HO

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (fax no.: 571-273-8300) on the date below.